TWO CONQUERORS.

A FASCINATING WORK OF PORTRAITURE AND SCHOLARSHIP.

PHILIP AND ALEXANDER OF MACEDON. Two Essays in Biography. By David G. Hogarth, M. A., Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford; F. S. A., F. R. G. S. With Map and Illustrations. Octavo, pp. xi, 312. Charles Scribner's Sons.

To reanimate the dry bones of history and withdraw from the catalogue of merely scholastic possessions a name that is full of human potentialities is an achievement so rare that it communicates a thrill to the reader when it is actually encountered. Such a thrill is conveyed by Mr. Hogarth in the humanized and imaginative work of scholarship which he has dedicated to the two great heroes of Macedonian antiquity. It is true that a whole literature has been raised around Alexander, but there is nothing in all his bibliography more vivid, more flexible, more personal and lifelike, than Mr. Hogarth's portrait, and in the study of Philip the latter has given us a work fairly unique. Unique through its novelty—for there is no other biography of Philip concerned with him solely—it furthermore has the unusual charm, indicated above, of bringing an antique figure close to our modern sympathies. The observer who traverses the Macedonian history of our own day, with its incidents as tangible as current journalism can make them, is not unnaturally disposed to regard the earliest years of the region as bordering on the academic, if not on the mythological. Mr. Hogarth changes all this. In his pages the Macedonia of Philip is no less alive than the Macedonia of our own time.

There is a curious resemblance between the old State and that southeastern section of Europe in which tribal antipathies are to this day impossible to quench. Philip, inheriting the Macedonian throne 382 years before our era, is met by the same conflict of geographical with political and religious limits which renders so difficult the tasks of our modern princes all the way from the northernmost Balkans to the Piræus. It was in his management of that conflict that Philip showed his greatness, and it is in the clarity and animation of his record that Mr. Hogarth makes an absorbing historian. He paints the peculiar balance, or, rather, lack of balance, which distinguished the Macedonian State. Toward the coast the people were homogeneous and disposed to render the allegiance demanded by the Macedonian prince. They were, or believed themselves to be, of the true Hellenic stock. In the hills there were peoples—Orestians, Lyncestians, Elimiotes, Pæonians and others—who were regarded by the plainsmen as barbarians and held by the throne as feudatories, but their chief characteristic seems to have been a turbulent independence. Hence, it was an unstable realm upon which Philip set his foot. "Our cardinal point is this," says Mr. Hogarth, "that between the 'Macedonians' of the coast-plain and the free men of the hills, before the time of Philip the Second, there was not that community of tradition and hope which alone consummates the identity of a nation." Circumstance and various kindly strokes of fate were added to Philip's natural genius and aided him in the fusion of his tempestuous vassalages into something having the semblance of a unit. The chief circumstance, in fact one of the pillars of his success, was the relation of the Macedonian ruler to his people. Given an autocrat, with a strong people behind him, or even a weak one, and the mere strength of his authority will do much to win battles. Philip, like his predecessors, was essentially an autocrat. All favors came from the sovereign, not a privilege in the land but was rooted in him, and we find, significantly, that "the whole body of Macedonians . . . distinguished themselves from the semi-subjugated 'Macedonians' of the hills as the King's . . . companions." The exact constitution of what might be called the court of the monarch is cleverly indicated by Mr. Hogarth, and a survey of its details, all pointing to the King as not only the ruler but the owner of the State, is singularly instructive, but it is sufficient to point out that while the "Companions" could in certain cases approach their chief with a show of equality, he was really so much their master that he could handle them as so much plastic material. In other words, Philip, striving to consolidate his rule, might have to contend with innumerable difficulties, but in the long run he was certain to find the people ready to his hand for internal development or for conquest.

Antecedent to his entering into possession of that ductile body of men comes one of those kindnesses of the gods to which we have referred. At an early age, in his fifteenth year, in fact, Philip came to spend three years in Thebes, practically as a hostage, but, in so far as his future history was concerned, as a pupil in the Theban school of military science. The people were at bottom ingrained with a coarse animalism, but being, as Mr. Hogarth points out, like the Spartans, "a conquering caste in an alien land," they were forced to keep their citizen soldiery upon a sound basis. They had, furthermore, the tremendous advantage of possessing two such leaders as Epaminondas and Pelopidas, both masters of moral discipline and tactical art. With the influence of these two men upon the history of Thebes we are not immediately concerned. The point that Mr. Hogarth enforces and makes profoundly interesting is that they must both have touched the imagination of the Macedonian youth sojourning within their walls, and that he applied in later life the lessons they taught him. "There were elements in the coarser but stronger nature of Philip," says Mr. Hogarth, "that recall both the great Thebans. His union of practical genius with appreciation of the power of culture, and his comprehensive vision of the co-operating forces which constitute a power, elevate him to the same pinnacle with Epaminondas. In his sympathy with the rudest of his soldiery and in the rough good fellowship which so often won hearts in spite of themselves, he resembled, consciously or not, Pelopidas. And, did we know more of the details of history during either the supremacy of Thebes or the reign of Philip, it might be possible to detect often, in the latter's words and deeds, distinct reminiscences of the great men with whom he must have been brought in contact, either directly or through their chief disciples Gorgias, Pammenes (with whom the young hostage lived in most intimate relations), or others now unknown."

This much the student is irresistibly moved to attribute to Philip's Theban exile—his lifelong passion for the creation of a national standing army. He obtained it by dint of patient labor; he obtained much more, namely, the Macedonian unity which was of more importance to the permanence of his rule and fame; and at this point there is some risk of letting enthusiasm get the better part of cool scholarship. One is tempted to regard Philip as being a great political genius, besides a brilliant military commander. But would such a judgment be, after all, so far wrong? We must judge a man by what he accomplishes; time enough then to speculate about motives, and though Mr. Hogarth, with the caution which distinguishes all his work, is indisposed to claim too great prescience for his hero, he nevertheless wisely declares that, at any rate, Philip could not have been quite unconscious of what he was doing. He may not have had so much constructive genius and so much foresight as to have had a complete plan in his mind of the Macedonian supremacy which he ultimately secured, but he surely had some glimmer of the benefits he was to attain through the military organization he developed. Mr. Hogarth eloquently compares Philip's work to that of Bismarck and his colleagues. "Community of hope," he observes, "passes in very short time into community of tradition. As the Germans in 1870, so the Macedonians in 352 marched out an Alliance to return a Union." The idea is deftly put, and it gives the key to that combination of statecraft with military skill which brought Philip to the apex of his power. The man's genius was fed always from those two sources. Fighter as he was, he yet was equally swift to take advantage of the arts of diplomacy, or of fraud, as Mr. Hogarth more bluntly expresses it; and perhaps the most brilliant jewel in his crown is the fact that he knew enough to seek the adherence of Athens through sympathy rather than through force. Alexander emulated his father in this.

The great Emathian conqueror bid spare
The house of Pindarus, when temple and tower
Went to the ground.

It is no strained imagination that divines a harmony between those famous lines and the record of both Philip and Alexander. Over and over again Mr. Hogarth alludes to the liberality of both conquerors in everything that concerned the welfare of Athens. Both were capable of severe reprisals, and they certainly had provocation enough. The conduct of Demosthenes, for example, might well have exasperated Philip and his son. Yet always the conquerors gazed wistfully at the culture which Athens had, to which they aspired, but which they knew was not in their veins. Approval by the Athenians meant infinitely more to Alexander than submission, and Philip was, if anything, more anxious for some flattering recognition of the tacit homage he was always paying to the great city-State. On this interesting ground we may relinquish Mr. Hogarth's volume. We have purposely confined ourselves to a discussion of his initial theme. By its novelty it makes a peculiarly strong appeal. Yet there is no difference between the merits of the two portraits. Both are superbly drawn, and readers who are tolerably familiar with Alexander's personality will rejoice in this new picture of it as much as they will rejoice in Mr. Hogarth's account of Philip. The book is written in a supple style, not at all highly colored, but warm and full of relief. A handful of carefully chosen illustrations, as carefully reproduced; a map of Alexander's Asiatic conquests, and an admirable index complete a work which is not more remarkable for its scholarship than for its imaginative, creative qualities.

ALEXANDER IN BATTLE.
(From the Sarcophagus of The Satraps at Constantinople.)

THE ALBATROSSES.

Mr. James is sometimes very cryptic in his essay on George du Maurier, printed in the current number of "Harper's Magazine," but, on the whole, the paper is remarkably eloquent, covering nearly every side of the strange, elusive genius of the subject. Perhaps the most interesting fragment in the essay, however, is the following, which is not criticism by Mr. James, but a sketch of one of the masterpieces which Du Maurier meant to write and never reached. "A title would not have been obvious, but there would have been food for wonder in the career of a pair of lovers who had been changed into Albatrosses, and the idea of whose romantic adventures in the double consciousness struck me, I remember, as a real trouvaille of the touching. They are separated; they lose each other in all the wide world; they are shot at and wounded; and, though, after years, I recall the matter confusedly, one of them appears, by the operation of the oddities among which the story moves, to have had to reassume the human shape, and wait and watch in vain for the wandering and distracted other."

TRADE IN WAR TIME.

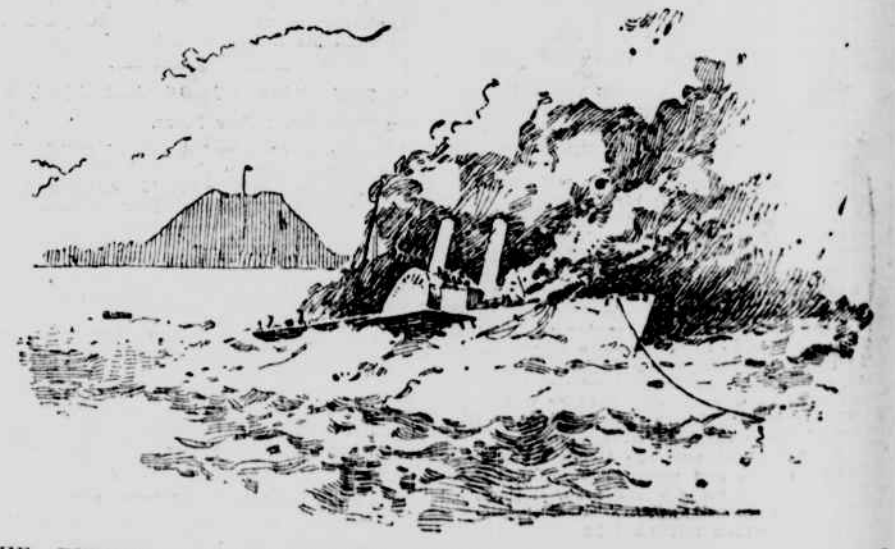
THE RECOLLECTIONS OF A SUPERCARGO OF THE SIXTIES.

RUNNING THE BLOCKADE. A Personal Narrative of Adventures, Risks, and Escapes During the American Civil War. By Thomas E. Taylor. With an Introduction by Julian Corbett. Maps and Illustrations. Octavo, pp. xxii, 180. Charles Scribner's Sons.

Mr. Taylor has the advantage of dealing with ground hitherto practically unbroken. The naval records of the Civil War have been exploited to a great extent, but the general public knows little enough about such events as those described in the present volume. When the Southern ports were first declared to be under blockade by the North, the declaration was almost the sole fact of which the blockaders could boast. It was for some time, in brief, more of a blockade upon paper than an actual blockade upon the high seas. The foreign Powers were indisposed to interfere. The North had its own way, though according to international law and usage none of the privileges of blockade could be claimed until the ports in question were actually sealed up by visible patrols. England, perhaps, had an eye upon this circumstance when she acquiesced in our blockade, but winked at the sailing of whole fleets of British ships laden with contraband of war for the beleaguered South. So busy was this traffic that its dangers were at first minimized in the eyes of such a lad as Mr. Taylor was when he made his first trip as supercargo from Liverpool to Nassau, the base of operations used by those shippers who ran their vessels in, when they could, to Wilmington or Galveston. As soon as the North got its navy into shape this trading was changed as to its atmosphere. The men engaged in it knew then that they had to reckon with indubitable perils, and Mr. Taylor goes on to the recital of really stirring occurrences.

It was an adventurous and, we should imagine, a delightful life for a man of spirit. No one allowed the thought of danger to weigh with him for any length of time. Sailors and officers alike set out from Liverpool in old ships that were dangerous enough when unloaded, and that, as a matter of fact, were piled so high with freight as to have scarcely deck room for the men at their daily tasks. Mr. Taylor ruefully states that the great mistake of the Liverpool merchants, including those whom he served, was in not providing ships stanch enough and swift enough for the hazardous undertaking upon which they were embarked. Again and again the vessels were taken by the enemy for no other reason than that they could not get up the speed requisite, and many a crisis was brought on because the engines in a steamer were not of the right sort or because the deck of a sailing vessel was encumbered with freight. To be sure, high prices were the rule. Mr. Taylor came within an ace of making his fortune. He found Lee's army at Richmond with rations for only thirty days, and he agreed to help the commissariat out by bringing in a shipload of provisions and meat worth £6,000 for £27,000. Going back to Nassau, this shrewd supercargo took a lot of Sea Island cotton with him, and he calculates that the profits of his venture, which occupied about twenty days, amounted to over £8,000. But in the long run, through obvious causes, these transactions with the Confederacy left the British merchants and speculators with a smaller margin to the good than they had expected in the heyday of their contraband adventure.

For Mr. Taylor the period meant pleasurable excitement, if it did not mean lasting profit. It was his custom to run his ships into Wilmington through three lines of patrols and with no more protection than could be got from darkness or the guns of Fort Fisher, when he could, unperceived, get near enough to that salvation. Colonel Lamb was in command of the fort at the time. He would keep a lookout for the blockade runners, and when they were chased get his guns ready for firing at the very moment that the scurrying ship lured its pursuer to within range. Upon one occasion the supercargo reckoned sadly without his host. Bringing in the Night Hawk, the ship shown in the accompanying illustration, he had to trust to an inefficient pilot, and before it was possible to get beneath the shelter of Lamb's guns the craft ran aground on the bar. Instantly two North-



THE BURNING OF THE NIGHT HAWK, A FAMOUS BLOCKADE RUNNER.